the performance of Tanks being found satisfactory after trials in India and also subject to conduct of negotiations in regard to prices and other terms and conditions of supply. Techno-Commercial Negotiations for procurement of Tanks have commenced.

Soldiers killed in Kargil War from Maharashtra

611. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of soldiers killed, injured and rendered totally handicapped from Maharashtra during Kargil operation with their details, district-wise separately;

(b) the details of relief provided from time to time to the families of the deceased soldiers, the injured soldiers and those rendered handicapped, in wars with Pakistan and China; and

(c) what is the future plan of Government to help those families and the injured soldiers and those rendered handicapped?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) The details of soldiers from Maharashtra who were killed during Kargil operation are as under:

Sl.No.	Army No.	Rank	Name	District
1.	4550218K	Hav.	Suresh Ganpati Chauhan	Sangli
2.	6932439N	LNk	Khairnar Eknath Chaitram	Nasik
3.	2780240F	LNk	Shankar Raj Ram Shinde	Pune
4.	13620359A	Ptr	Patil Mahadav Namdo	Sangli
5.	4073854P	RFN	Sanap Subhash Ashrub	Beed
6.	10146540K	Sep	Desai Machindra Ramchander	Kolhapur

The State/District-wise details of injured and disabled soldiers are not being maintained. The families/next of kin of deceased soldiers and disabled soldiers of previous wars with Pakistan and China have been given financial relief from time to time, which include (i) special family pension/liberalised family pension and children allowance in accordance with the rules and orders

F 4—145/RS/ND/2000

in force; (ii) family gratuity as per rules; (iii) war injury pension as per pension regulations.

Since August 1997 ex-gratia lumpsum compensation of Rs. 5 lakhs in case of death occurring due to accident in course of performance of duties and in case of death occurring in course of performance of duty attributable to acts of violence by terrorist, anti- social elements etc; Rs. 7.5 lakhs in case of death occurring during border skirmishes and action against militant, extremists etc; and Rs. 10 lakhs in case of death occurring during enemy action in international war and war like engagements is being paid. The next of kin of soldiers who lost their lives in the Kargil conflict have been paid ex-gratia compensation of Rs. 10 lakhs.

A comprehensive welfare package has been provided to the NOK of the Armed Forces personnel killed in the Kargil conflict. Apart from ex-gratia compensation, liberalised special family pension on the bais of last pay drawn by the deceased soldier, and death gratuity and family gratuity as applicable, the following assistance has also been provided from the National Defence Fund: Rs. 5 lakhs for dwelling unit, Rs. 1 lakh per child for education up to 2 children per family, Rs. 1.20 lakhs for needy parents who were dependent on the deceased soldiers. An additional ex-gratia amount of Rs. 30,000 has also been provided from the Army Central Welfare Fund. Besides, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has separately earmarked LPG dealership/ distributorship for allocation to the NOK of the Armed Forces personnel killed.

Defence Preparedness by Pakistan Along LoC

612. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Pakistan has increased its preparedness alsong LoC as reported in the Hindustan Times dated 27th January, 2000;

(b) if so, whether Government have been actively watching the situation and are ready to face any type of eventuality; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Certain readjustments and reinforcements by Pakistan on the Line